



THE SEED CONSULTANT

A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER NEWS AND VIEWS FROM THE FIELD

BOOST BOTTOM LINE WITH 2025 NEW SEED TECHNOLOGY

Making choices that offer the best return on investment is critical

EFFECTS OF DROUGHT ON CORN EARS

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Techniques and products to control these pests

LEADER UPDATE

An incredibly challenging growing season comes to a close

BOOST BOTTOM LINE WITH 2025 NEW SEED TECHNOLOGY

By Jordan Bassler

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The end of summer means it's time to crunch the numbers and purchase your seed for 2025. With fluctuating commodity prices, choosing seed that offers the best return on investment is more critical than ever.

The 2025 lineup of Seed Consultants new technologies, PowerCore® Enlist® Refuge Advanced® and Vorceed® Enlist® corn, is showing promising results for weed and insect protection and a boost in yields.

YIELD ADVANTAGES

Recent Seed Consultants field trials have demonstrated significant yield advantages for the new technologies. Here's what our field trials are indicating:



1. The 2025 lineup shows a possible yield increase of up to 5.3 bushels per acre* compared to competitors' offerings.

2. When stacked against our older varieties, the new lineup suggests a prospective improvement of 4.4 bushels per acre.*

3. Vorceed® Enlist® corn products, providing both above and below-ground insect protection, have demonstrated an impressive yield advantage in trials, with the possibility of up to 8 bushels per acre* more than our competitors.

4. Field tests for PowerCore® Enlist® Refuge Advanced® corn products, which offer above-ground insect protection, indicate a projected advantage of 5.8 bushels per acre* over similar competitor products.

Remember, these numbers are based on our field trials and actual results may vary depending on your specific conditions.

ECONOMIC BENEFITS

Farmers should push the pencil and see how their current yields compare to these new varieties. While the latest technologies come at a higher price, the yield advantages can help offset the additional cost.

PowerCore® Enlist® products come with a premium price per bag, as do all the top-of-the-line seed technologies. With a 5.8 bushel per acre* potential advantage, farmers can expect an additional potential return on every acre.

The economic benefits of Vorceed® Enlist® products are even more substantial. The 8-bushel per acre* potential advantage translates to additional potential return on each acre.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

Beyond yield and economic advantages, these new technologies offer superior weed and insect control benefits:

1. Extended Herbicide Application Window: The Enlist® trait allows for herbicide application up to corn reaching 30 inches in height, compared to the previous 8-inch limit, providing greater flexibility in weed management.

2. Reduced Risk of Crop Injury: The Enlist® trait is built into the corn genetics, eliminating the risk of herbicide-related crop injury.

3. Improved Insect Control: Vorceed® Enlist® corn utilizes RNAi technology, showing a 99% reduction in adult rootworm beetle emergence in state studies.¹

4. Multiple Modes of Action: PowerCore® Enlist® Refuge Advanced® corn offers three modes of action for protecting plants from above-ground stalk-boring pests, enhancing the durability of insect and weed control.

MAKING THE DECISION

While commodity prices and input costs remain concerns for many farmers, the yield potential and economic benefits of these new technologies make them worthy of serious consideration.

As you plan for the 2025 planting season, consider how these advanced seed technologies might benefit your harvest. The initial investment may be higher, but the potential for increased yields and profits could make it a smart choice for your farm's future.

¹ 2020 Corteva Agriscience Tent Emergence trials. 6 locations.

*Data is based on an average of 2023 IMPACT™ trial comparisons made in the U.S. through July 11, 2024. Comparisons are against all competitors, unless otherwise stated, and within +/- 0.3 RM of the competitive brand. Product responses are variable and subject to any number of environmental, disease and pest pressures. Individual results may vary.



EFFECTS OF DROUGHT ON CORN EARS



By Matt Hutcheson, CCA

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With the stress the corn crop has gone through this year in the eastern Corn Belt, some strange looking ears may developed in your fields. Below are descriptions of some of the abnormal ear symptoms that you may have encountered this fall:

EAR PINCHING:

Kernel rows of a pinched ear may decrease by half from the bottom to the tip of the ear, giving it the appearance of a bottle. The length of pinched ears is usually normal. Ear pinching can occur due to stress at the 7 to 10 leaf stage or as a result of late application of sulfonylurea herbicides.

POOR KERNEL SET:

On ears with poor kernel set, only a small number of ovules were fertilized and kernels are scattered on the ear with a great deal of cob showing. These ears may have poor pollination due to severe drought stress causing pollen

shed to occur before silks emerge from ears.

Other possible causes of this symptom are poor pollination due to uneven crop development and silk clipping by insects.

TIP DIEBACK:

Ears with tip dieback have not developed kernels on a portion of the ear tip. These ears may have ovules that were not fertilized at the end of the ear and/or kernels that aborted after fertilization due to drought and heat stress.

DROUGHT DAMAGED EARS:

Sometimes referred to as “hubbins”, ears damaged by drought stress will be misshaped

and have fewer kernel rows and kernels per row. Severe drought stress during vegetative stages or grain fill can result in the development of these small and oddly shaped ears.

ZIPPER EARS:

Also referred to as “banana” ears, these corn ears are missing all or part of kernel rows on one side and may be curved due to these missing kernel rows. While the exact cause of zipper ears is unknown, they are often associated with severe drought stress and defoliation after pollination.

CHAFFY EARS:

Corn ears that are poorly filled or have shrunken kernels with small gaps between them are referred to as chaffy ears, and can be a result of drought stress. Stress during the R4 (dough) and R5 (dent) stages of reproductive development can cause the chaffy ear symptoms.

Descriptions adapted from ACE-1 by Peter Thomison and Allen Geyer



EARLY CASH DISCOUNTS

Seed Consultants offers opportunities to maximize seed cost savings through an early cash discount schedule for the 2025 planting season.

CASH DISCOUNTS

12%.....	November	6%.....	February
10%.....	December-January 10	4%.....	March
8%.....	January	2%.....	April

If you have any questions, please call the office at 800-708-2676.

PREVENTING SLUGS IN 2025 STARTS NOW



By J.D. Bethel, CCA

Director of Agronomic Services

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There were numerous fields across our territory this spring that suffered slug infestations. These infestations reduced soybean stands and, in many instances, needed to be replanted.

Slugs are generally present in crop fields across the United States and feed on both living and decaying plant material. Slugs are gastropods, not insects, so insecticide seed treatments or rescue treatments will not control them. Slugs thrive in fields with high biomass and can live for more than one growing season. Fields with high biomass include no-till fields, and fields with overwintering cover crops or winter annuals.

One way to reduce the potential for slug problems in 2025 is to apply a fall burndown herbicide application to any fields that are going to be planted in no-till conditions. This reduction

in green, leafy biomass should help to reduce the habitat that slugs will use to overwinter. Fields without winter annuals will also have more uniform and higher soil temperatures in early spring compared to fields with a patchwork of winter annuals like purple deadnettle/henbit, cressleaf groundsel, and common chickweed. Warmer soils will lead to faster germination, emergence, and give the crop an opportunity to outgrow the slugs.

There are many different programs for fall burndown herbicide applications but in my opinion, it is best to keep it simple. You may be tempted to use residual products in the fall, but I have found that those herbicide dollars are generally better spent on residual herbicides applied in the spring. The two main fall programs I have recommended are...

1) Glyphosate + 2,4-D

- a. This program tends to be better on purple deadnettle/henbit.

Or

2) 2,4-D + Dicamba Premix

- a. This program lets you spray through waterways.

Please speak with your herbicide retailer to determine specific products and rates. There are too many generic products for me to specify application rates in this article.

Fall burndowns can be sprayed after the first frost and I've seen successful control even in fields sprayed the week before Christmas. The key when spraying later in the fall is to make sure air temperatures get above 40F and the winter annuals are actively growing.

This article on slug control rapidly turned into an article on fall burndowns, but the literature on slug control once you already have a problem is fairly limited. The primary cure is to limit the amount of biomass in the field. In heavy infestations it is highly recommended to perform some sort of tillage pass to break up the habitat in which the slugs thrive. Slugs also thrive in wet field conditions, so prolonged periods of wet weather can increase feeding on corn or soybeans. Conversely, a period of dry, warm weather will be detrimental to slugs and allow the crop to outgrow the feeding.



ABOVE, BELOW AND EVERY PEST IN BETWEEN

Vorceed™ Enlist® corn hybrids from Seed Consultants are highly effective against western corn rootworm, northern corn rootworm and Mexican corn rootworm. With six modes of action against aboveground and belowground pests, we help farmers get to the bottom of insect control to take their yield potential higher than ever. Add in herbicide tolerance from the flexible Enlist® weed control system for management of the toughest weeds, and you have hybrids that are simply better.



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SCAN TO
LEARN MORE

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*Roundup and Roundup Ready are registered trademarks of Bayer Group.





FINANCING

SEED CONSULTANTS, INC.

TWO GREAT FINANCING CHOICES FOR 2024-2025

0% THROUGH JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL

0% THROUGH RABO AGRIFINANCE

These financing programs are only available to John Deere Financial Preferred Customers and/or RABO AgriFinance approved customers. To apply for a John Deere Financial Preferred Account or RABO account or to increase your John Deere Financial or RABO line of credit, contact John Deere Financial (800-433-8964) or RABO (888-395-8505), so the necessary paperwork may be completed with John Deere Financial &/or RABO.

JOHN DEERE FINANCIAL & RABO GUIDELINES

- Must be a John Deere Financial Preferred Customer or approved by RABO AgriFinance.
- Approval and credit limits established by John Deere Financial &/or RABO...not by SCI.
- Terms and conditions apply. See respective credit applications for full terms and disclosures.
- To increase or establish your credit line call John Deere Financial (800-433-8964) or RABO (888-395-8505).
- Must be enrolled and approved to qualify for discounts.
- Discounts applied on approval date from John Deere Financial &/or RABO.
- Signed terms of disclosure on file.
- Minimum purchase of \$1,000.
- Due date of December 2025.

For John Deere Financial customers with current special terms balances at or near their credit limit, they may have an option to enable their seed purchase now and lock in their order. Contact your SCI Seedsman for details.

Finance Plan	DISCOUNT SCHEDULE	
	John Deere Financial	RABO
Purchase & Approval Date	Fixed 0%	Fixed 0%
November 2024	2.5%	2.5%
December - January 10, 2025	1.0%	1.0%
January 2025	0.0%	0.0%
February 2025	0.0%	0.0%
March 2025	0.0%	0.0%
April 2025	0.0%	0.0%
May 2025	0.0%	0.0%
In Season	0.0%	0.0%



IS THE KEY

UNLOCK SIMPLE SOLUTIONS. Enlist E3[®] soybeans from Seed Consultants feature outstanding agronomic improvements over established lines and are specifically developed to excel in the unique soils and conditions of the eastern Corn Belt. Let our elite Seed Consultants brand Enlist E3[®] soybeans and agronomic support simplify your soybean production this year.

Contact your local Seed Consultants sales professional or visit SeedConsultants.com.



Seed Consultants
Simply Better

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Enlist One[®] and Enlist Duo[®] are not labeled for use in all 50 states. To find product labels, state registration status, and additional resources about the Enlist[®] weed control system and its availability, visit Enlist.com. Additional stewardship information on Enlist crops and to review seed product use guide details, visit traitstewardship.com.





LEADER UPDATE

By Daniel Call, CCA

General Manager
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What an incredibly challenging growing season! And that's putting the 2024 growing season mildly. As is usually the case, there will be significant yield variability across our footprint. Many folks fought wet and muddy conditions this spring all the way until June before they could start planting. Some of these areas were able to maintain adequate rainfall all the way through summer and will likely harvest one of their best crops on record. Other places within our sales area are dealing with historic drought conditions which have seriously damaged the crop. Some areas are recording their driest summer ever. Through these dramatic variations, the flexibility of our hybrids and varieties should be on display this harvest season.

Each year it is exciting to watch yield results come in and see how the newly released products compare to our current top products. It's a little more exciting this year as some of the products we have watched over the past two seasons will finally be seen by our customers across a much larger area and across some significantly variable environments. The feedback we have received so far this fall has been extremely encouraging. In fact, a majority of customers are telling us their

yields are better than expected. That doesn't necessarily mean it's a bumper crop; however, our modern genetics, combined with world class seed treatments and traits should help bring the maximum yield opportunity to realization.

We are excited about our 2025 new releases and anticipate you will be excited to see them on your own farm over the next couple years. Thank You for allowing Seed Consultants to work with you over the past 34 years. We look forward to continuing to bring value and success to your operation for years to come.

Harvest is always an exciting time of year, and this year will be no different. The excitement of harvest is met each year with frustrations from equipment, weather, and lines at the elevator, all challenging our patience and temperament. Hopefully, everyone has the opportunity this fall to pause and take a moment to appreciate the culmination of another growing season in our careers. All of us at Seed Consultants pray for a safe and bountiful harvest to each of you. Please be careful and take your time during this extremely busy season.



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Don't miss a thing

The SCI free e-newsletter comes via e-mail every Monday. The newsletter is packed full of current agronomic topics. Subscribe by sending your e-mail address to matt@seedconsultants.com or by signing up on our website at www.seedconsultants.com.

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The information provided within this newsletter is not a substitute for advice concerning your specific situation. The information contained herein is general and educational in nature. Because each situation is different and each recommendation is specifically tailored for each customer, the information contained herein should never be used to determine your course of action.

Agrisure® is a registered trademark of, and used under license from, a Syngenta Group Company. Agrisure® technology incorporated into these seeds is commercialized under a license from Syngenta Crop Protection AG.

Q (Qrome®) Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution for above- and below-ground insects. The major component contains the Agrisure® RW trait, the Bt trait, and the Herculex® XTRA genes. In EPA-designated cotton growing counties, a 20% separate corn borer refuge must be planted with Qrome products. Qrome® products are approved for cultivation in the U.S. and Canada. They have also received approval in a number of importing countries, most recently China. For additional information about the status of regulatory authorizations, visit <http://www.biotradestatus.com/>.

LibertyLink® and the **Water Droplet logo** are trademarks of BASF Corporation. Seed products with the LibertyLink® (LL) trait are resistant to the herbicide glufosinate ammonium, an alternative to glyphosate in corn, and combine high-yielding genetics with the powerful, non-selective, postemergent weed control of Liberty® herbicide for optimum yield and excellent weed control.

***Roundup** and **Roundup Ready** are registered trademarks of Bayer Group.

AM - Optimum® AcreMax® Insect Protection system with YGCB, HX1, LL, RR2. Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution for above-ground insects.

AMXT (Optimum® AcreMax® XTreme) Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution for above- and below-ground insects. The major component contains the Agrisure® RW trait, a Bt trait, and the Herculex® XTRA genes. In EPA-designated cotton growing counties, a 20% separate corn borer refuge must be planted with Optimum AcreMax and Optimum AcreMax XTreme products.

HX1 Contains the Herculex® I Insect Protection gene which provides protection against European corn borer, southwestern corn borer, black cutworm, fall armyworm, lesser corn stalk borer, southern corn stalk borer, and sugarcane borer; and suppresses corn earworm.

ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS. Roundup Ready® crops contain genes that confer tolerance to glyphosate, the active ingredient in Roundup® brand agricultural herbicides. Roundup® brand agricultural herbicides will kill crops that are not tolerant to glyphosate.

RR2 Contains the Roundup Ready® Corn 2 trait that provides crop safety for over-the-top applications of labeled glyphosate herbicides when applied according to label directions.

AQ Optimum® AQUAmax® product. Product performance in water-limited environments is variable and depends on many factors, such as the severity and timing of moisture deficiency, heat stress, soil type, management practices and environmental stress, as well as disease and pest pressures. All products may exhibit reduced yield under water and heat stress. Individual results may vary.

SmartStax® multi-event technology developed by Corteva Agriscience and Monsanto. ®SmartStax and the SmartStax Logo are registered trademarks of Monsanto Technology LLC. Always follow IRM, grain marketing and all other stewardship practices and pesticide label directions. B.t. products may not yet be registered in all states. Check with your seed representative for the registration status in your state.

POWERCORE® is a registered trademark of Bayer Group. POWERCORE® multi-event technology developed by Corteva Agriscience and Bayer Group. Liberty®, LibertyLink® and the Water Droplet Design are registered trademarks of BASF. ®Roundup and Roundup Ready are registered trademarks of Bayer Group. Always follow IRM, grain marketing and all other stewardship practices and pesticide label directions. B.t. products may not yet be registered in all states. Check with your seed representative for the registration status in your state.

Powercore® Enlist® Refuge Advanced® corn products with HX1, VTP, ENL, LL, RR2. Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution for above-ground insects. In EPA-designated cotton-growing counties, a 20% separate corn borer refuge must be planted with PowerCore Enlist Refuge Advanced products.

Vorceed® Enlist® products with V, LL, RR, ENL. Contains a single-bag integrated refuge solution with multiple modes of action for above- and below-ground insects. The major component contains the Herculex® XTRA genes, the RW3 trait and the VTP trait. In EPA-designated cotton growing counties, a 20% separate corn borer refuge must be planted for Vorceed Enlist products.

The transgenic soybean event in Enlist E3® soybeans is jointly developed and owned by Corteva Agriscience and M.S. Technologies L.L.C.

Corteva Agriscience products are commercialized in accordance with ETS Product Launch Stewardship Guidance and in compliance with the Corteva Agriscience policies regarding stewardship of those products. In line with these guidelines, our product launch process for responsible launches of new products includes a longstanding process to evaluate export market information, value chain consultations, and regulatory functionality. Growers and end-users must take all steps within their control to follow appropriate stewardship requirements and confirm their buyer's acceptance of the grain or other material being purchased. For more detailed information on the status of a trait or stack, please visit www.biotradestatus.com.

Following burndown, Enlist Duo® and Enlist One® herbicides with Colex-D® technology are the only herbicides containing 2,4-D that are authorized for preemergence and postemergence use with Enlist® crops.

Consult Enlist® herbicide labels for weed species controlled. Enlist Duo and Enlist One herbicides are not registered for use or sale in all states and counties; are not registered in AK, CA, CT, HI, ID, MA, ME, MT, NH, NV, OR, RI, UT, VT, WA and WY; and have additional subcounty restrictions in AL, GA, TN and TX, while existing county restrictions still remain in FL. All users must check "Bulletins Live! Two" no earlier than six months before using Enlist One or Enlist Duo. To obtain "Bulletins," consult epa.gov/espp/, call 1-844-447-3813, or email ESPP@epa.gov. You must use the "Bulletin" valid for the month and state and county in which Enlist One or Enlist Duo are being applied. Contact your state pesticide regulatory agency if you have questions about the registration status of Enlist® herbicides in your area. ALWAYS READ AND FOLLOW PESTICIDE LABEL DIRECTIONS. IT IS A VIOLATION OF FEDERAL AND STATE LAW TO USE ANY PESTICIDE PRODUCT OTHER THAN IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS LABELING. ONLY USE FORMULATIONS THAT ARE SPECIFICALLY LABELED FOR SUCH USE IN THE STATE OF APPLICATION. USE OF PESTICIDE PRODUCTS, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, 2,4-D-CONTAINING PRODUCTS NOT AUTHORIZED FOR USE WITH ENLIST CROPS, MAY RESULT IN OFF-TARGET DAMAGE TO SENSITIVE CROPS/AREAS AND/OR SUSCEPTIBLE PLANTS, IN ADDITION TO CIVIL AND/OR CRIMINAL PENALTIES. Additional product-specific stewardship requirements for Enlist crops, including the Enlist Product Use Guide, can be found at HYPERLINK "<https://www.traitstewardship.com/>"www.traitstewardship.com.

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